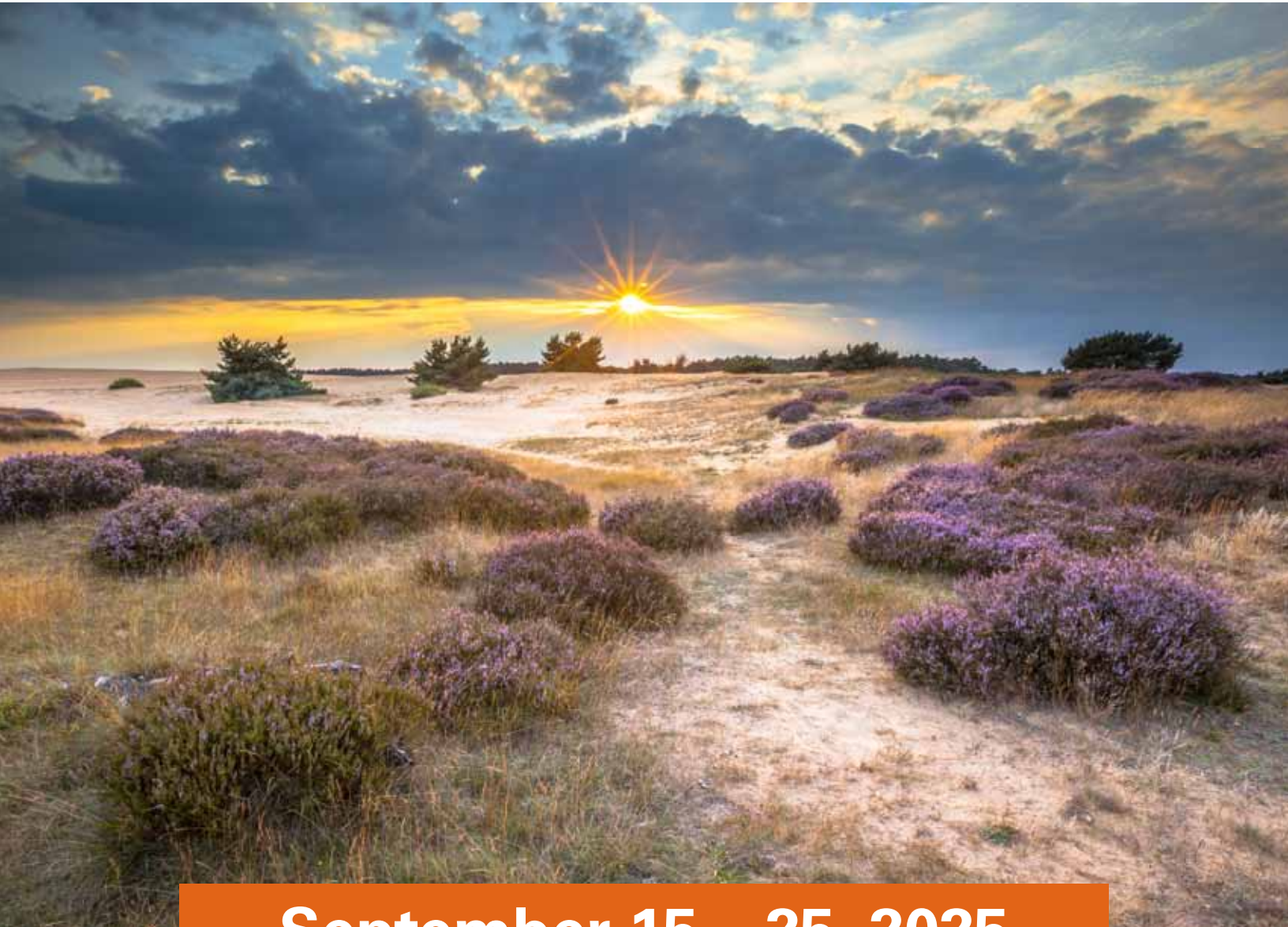


AVIAN ADVENTURES

*Birding Through
the Netherlands*



September 15 – 25, 2025

Hosted by Philip Vande-Riet
& Sophia Witte





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Philip Vande-Riet &
Sophia Witte



Phil and Sophia are residents of Green Valley, AZ. They have traveled extensively throughout the United States. Sophia is the sister of Henry Witte, the founder of Witte Travel, and John Witte, and is a native of the Netherlands. Phil is a Navy veteran and spent two years in the Peace Corps. Both Sophia and Phil are retired teachers. They enjoy hiking and are members of the Tubac Nature Center which holds weekly bird walks.

(520) 509-5037

Phillip
soulwind11@outlook.com

Sophia
smw_witte@yahoo.com

SEPTEMBER 2025
15, Monday
Depart Phoenix

Today's the day! We meet at the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport for our connecting flights to Amsterdam. (Meals in-flight)

16, Tuesday
Arrive Amsterdam

Welcome to the Netherlands! We arrive in the beautiful capital of Amsterdam and collect our luggage to meet the driver/guide for our transfer into the city. We start our day with a stunning canal cruise to orient ourselves to the big city. Following, we have time for an independent lunch before a visit to the famous Rijksmuseum. See works from Rembrandt and Vermeer before we transfer to the hotel to check in and refresh. This evening, we have a group welcome dinner to commence the start of a wonderful tour! (D)

Tour Cost

Cost is per person, based on double occupancy, and departure city

\$4,375 from Phoenix OR \$4,535 from Grand Rapids

Other departure cities available upon request.

REGISTER ONLINE AT

bookings.wittetravel.com

use booking code 091525WITT

or complete and return the printed registration form.



17, Wednesday
De Hoge Veluwe National Park, Zwolle

This morning we transfer to De Hoge Veluwe National Park for some early morning birding. Bring your binoculars as you take in the beautiful scenery. Following, we transfer to the Kröller-Müller Museum. The museum offers one of the largest collections of Van Gogh paintings and a lovely outdoor sculpture park. We are free to peruse the museum this afternoon. Feel free to use one of their bikes to ride along the bike paths. This evening, we transfer to Zwolle where we have a two-night stay. Enjoy a walking tour before gathering for a group dinner. (B, D)

18, Thursday
Oostvaardersplassen, Urk, Kampen, Zwolle

Today we visit Oostvaardersplassen for a guided birding tour. After enjoying this stunning nature reserve, we visit the traditional town of Urk, taking in the authentic city and the traditional Dutch clothing worn by locals. Next, we transfer to Kampen. Known for its well-preserved Old Town and riverfront views, we have time to explore this historical city before we return to Zwolle for an independent evening. (B, Boxed-L)

19, Friday
Weerribben-Wieden National Park, Giethoorn, Den Helder

We start our day with a guided birding tour to Weerribben-Wieden National Park before continuing to the picturesque town of Giethoorn. As we cruise through the canals, keep your cameras handy! Following, we transfer to Den Helder to check in to our hotel for a three-night stay and a group dinner this evening. (B, D)

20, Saturday
Afsluitdijk, Sneek, Den Helder

Today we visit the Wadden Center to learn about the Afsluitdijk. See the major dam and motorway before transferring to the city of Sneek. This charming city has great opportunities for shopping, café hopping, and sightseeing. Stop by the Watergate to see the famous bridge in the city. After independent time, we return to Den Helder for a group dinner. (B, D)

21, Sunday
Texel Island, Den Burg, Den Helder

We continue our birding adventures on Texel Island this morning with a ferry to the island. Enjoy a picnic lunch while touring before finishing with a stop at Bakker Timmer for some coffee and pastries in Den Burg. After taking the ferry back to Den Helder, we have an independent evening to keep soaking up the seaside town. (B, Boxed-L)

22, Monday
Hoorn, Volendam, Edam, Amsterdam

This morning we visit Hoorn and Volendam, cute coastal towns with amazing views of the waterfront. This afternoon we visit a cheese farm in Edam. After learning about the local craft, and maybe tastetesting a couple of samples, we end the day in Amsterdam with a group dinner. (B, D)

- ❶ Volendam
- ❷ Sneek waterpoort
- ❸ Male hawfinch in the forest of Noord-Brabant
- ❹ Red crossbill
- ❺ Eurasian nuthatch
- ❻ Hoorn

Cover: De Hoge Veluwe National Park



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23, Tuesday
Zuid-Kennemerland National Park, Haarlem, Amsterdam

Today we visit Zuid-Kennemerland National Park for a guided birding tour and a picnic lunch before exploring the cozy city of Haarlem. Known for its flower markets and the famous Corrie ten Boom House, we have time to explore and sightsee. This afternoon, enjoy an independent evening back in Amsterdam, checking out the amazing restaurants the city has to offer. (B, Boxed-L)

- 1 Haarlem
- 2 Amsterdam
- 3 Northern lapwing

24, Wednesday
Amsterdam

We start our final day with a walking tour of the capital. After getting a preview of some of Amsterdam's most famous sites, enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure. With a plethora of museums, charming alleyways, and views of the canals, there's much to see and do! Visit the Van Gogh Museum, the Holocaust Museum, or the Anne Frank House (advance purchase of ticket necessary). To conclude the ending of a great week, we gather for a farewell dinner this evening. (B, D)

25, Thursday
Depart for Phoenix

All too soon, we transfer to the airport this morning for our connecting flights back to Phoenix. (B, L in-flight)



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Tour Pace

MODERATE – Travelers considering this tour must be aware of existing challenges in Europe for those with mobility, balance, and respiratory issues. While picturesque landscapes and cultural experiences await, navigating cobblestone streets, uneven terrain and narrow pathways pose difficulties. **Passengers who require any mobility device, must be accompanied by a physically able companion who enables them to keep pace with walking tours on this trip. Taxis or other transportation used to "catch up" to the group are at the passenger's expense.** Activity levels vary from day-to-day. Sightseeing is often a brisk walk on uneven ground. Your safety and comfort are our top priorities. We are committed to ensuring an inclusive and enjoyable experience for all travelers.

In 2025, Witte celebrates 50 years of helping our clients experience the world. Join us on this birding tour of the Netherlands. Be part of celebrating our past, and exploring the future. As our president, Nate Barendse, says, "Fifty years and we're just getting started!"



3250 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512
 616.957.8113 | 800 GO WITTE
 groups@wittetravel.com | wittetours.com

